

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7633

Petition of Southern Vermont Cable Company to renew)
its Certificate of Public Good for a cable television)
system located in the Towns of Newfane, Putney,)
Dummerston, Townshend, Brattleboro, Brookline)
Dover, Jamaica, Marlboro, Wardsboro and Westminster)
for a period of eleven years)

Order entered: 8/4/2010

PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

I convened a prehearing conference in this matter on July 29, 2010. Both the petitioner, Southern Vermont Cable Company ("Southern Vermont"), and the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") were represented by counsel.

The parties and I had a colloquy over the scope of work involved in the "community needs assessment" required by PSB Rule 8.231. The Department expressed its opinion that the scope of the assessment was intended to be flexible; that is, the assessment required for a large cable operator like Comcast or Charter would be far more extensive than one for a small system like that run by Southern Vermont. Southern Vermont concurred. The Department suggested that it would submit a proposal for the scope of assessment it intends to undertake in this docket for approval, and I endorsed that procedure. Of course, it is unremarkable that the size of the investigation should fit the system and the operator; the new thing here is to explicitly define the scope of the project beforehand.

The parties developed the following schedule, which I accepted:

August 17, 2010 ¹	Department to submit proposal for components of community needs assessment
August 20	Deadline for motions to intervene
August 27	Order on Department's community needs assessment proposal and responses to motions to intervene
September 16	Public Hearing
2 weeks after Public Hearing	Department to file discovery
2 weeks after Department files discovery	Southern Vermont to respond to discovery
October 29	Department to file community needs assessment and prefiled testimony
November 12	Department and Southern Vermont to provide proposed litigation schedule or stipulation

So ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 4th day of August, 2010.

s/ John P. Bentley
John P. Bentley, Esq.
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: August 4, 2010

ATTEST: s/ Susan M. Hudson

Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)

1. The schedule agreed upon at the Prehearing Conference stated August 16, which is a State holiday, and the Public Service Board's offices are closed.